CLAIMS AMENDMENT

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Canceled).

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Canceled).

Claim 15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Canceled).

Claim 18 (Canceled).

Claim 19 (Canceled).

Claim 20 (Canceled).

Claim 21 (Canceled).

Claim 22 (Canceled).

Claim 23 (Canceled).

Claim 24 (Canceled).

Claim 25 (Canceled).

Claim 26 (Canceled).

Claim 27 (Canceled).

Claim 28 (Canceled).

Claim 29 (Canceled).

Claim 30 (Canceled).

Claim 31 (Canceled).

Claim 32 (Canceled).

Claim 33 (Canceled).

Claim 34 (Canceled).

Claim 35 (Canceled).

Claim 36 (Canceled).

Claim 37 (Canceled).

Claim 38 (Canceled).

Claim 39 (Canceled).

Claim 40 (Canceled).

Claim 41 (Currently amended). A *Eustoma* seed comprising a recessive allele for reduced apical dominance, wherein a sample of said seed has been deposited under A.T.C.C. Accession Number _____.

Claim 42 (Previously presented). An *Eustoma* plant containing a recessive allele for reduced apical dominance grown from the seed of claim 41.

Claim 43 (Previously presented). Pollen of the plant of claim 42.

Claim 44 (Previously presented). An ovule of the plant of claim 42.

Claim 45 (Previously presented). A tissue culture comprising regenerable cells of the plant of claim 42.

Claim 46 (Previously presented). A cutting of the plant of claim 42.

Claim 47 (Currently amended). *A Eustoma* plant, or its parts, regenerated from the tissue culture of claim 45 and capable of expressing all the morphological and physiological characteristics of *Eustoma* plant, seed of which has been deposited under A.T.C.C. accession number _____.

Claim 48 (Previously presented). A method of producing a hybrid plant, said method comprising the steps of: crossing a first inbred parent *Eustoma* plant with a second inbred parent *Eustoma* plant and harvesting the resultant hybrid *Eustoma* seed, wherein said first or second parent *Eustoma* plant is the *Eustoma* plant of claim 42.

Claim 49 (Previously presented). A hybrid *Eustoma* seed produced by the method of claim 48.

Claim 50 (Previously presented). A hybrid *Eustoma* plant, or part thereof, produced by growing said hybrid *Eustoma* seed of claim 49.

Claim 51 (Previously presented). Pollen of the plant of claim 50.

Claim 52 (Previously presented). An ovule of the plant of claim 50.

Claim 53 (Previously presented). A tissue culture comprising regenerable cells of the plant of claim 50.

Claim 54 (Previously presented). A cutting of the plant of claim 50.

Claim 55 (Previously presented). A method for developing *a Eustoma* plant that exhibits reduced apical dominance in a *Eustoma* plant breeding program using plant breeding techniques, wherein said plant breeding program employs a *Eustoma* plant, or its parts, as a source of plant breeding material, the method comprising the step of obtaining the *Eustoma* plant, or its parts, of claim 42 as a source of said breeding material.

Claim 56 (Previously presented). The method of claim 55 wherein plant breeding techniques are selected recurrent selection, backcrossing or pedigree breeding.

Claim 57 (Previously presented). *A Eustoma* plant exhibiting reduced apical dominance produced by the method of claim 55.

Claim 58 (Previously presented). *A Eustoma* plant exhibiting reduced apical dominance, wherein at least one ancestor of said *Eustoma* plant is the *Eustoma* plant, or its parts, of claim 42.

Claim 59 (Previously presented). *Eustoma* seed, a sample of which has been deposited under A.T.C.C. Accession Number 203392.

Claim 60 (Previously presented). An *Eustoma* plant grown from the seed of claim 59.

Claim 61 (Previously presented). Pollen of the plant of claim 60.

Claim 62 (Previously presented). An ovule of the plant of claim 60.

Claim 63 (Previously presented). A tissue culture comprising regenerable cells of the plant of claim 60.

Claim 64 (Previously presented). A cutting of the plant of claim 60.

Claim 65 (Currently amended). *A Eustoma* plant, or its parts, regenerated from the tissue culture of claim 63 and capable of expressing all the morphological and physiological characteristics of *Eustoma* plant, seed of which has been deposited under A.T.C.C. accession number 203392.

Claim 66 (Canceled).

Claim 67 (Canceled).

Claim 68 (Canceled).

Claim 69 (Canceled).

Claim 70 (Canceled).

Claim 71 (Canceled).

Claim 72 (Canceled).

Claim 73 (Previously presented). A method for developing a *Eustoma* plant in a *Eustoma* plant breeding program using plant breeding techniques, wherein said plant breeding program employs a *Eustoma* plant, or its parts, as a source of plant breeding material, the method comprising the step of obtaining the *Eustoma* plant, or its parts, of claim 60 as a source of said breeding material.

Claim 74 (Previously presented). The method of claim 73 wherein plant breeding techniques are selected recurrent selection, backcrossing or pedigree breeding.

Claim 75 (Canceled).

Claim 76 (Canceled).